

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 10/656,813

Q77384

REMARKS

Formalities

Claims 1-11 are all the claims currently pending in the present Application. In the current Action, the Examiner maintains his previous rejections of the claims over the Arquilevich (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,089) and Quintana (U.S. Patent No. 5,466,079) references.

Applicant notes that in his "Response to Arguments" section, the Examiner asserts that the amendments to the claims made in the August 3, 2005 Amendment are "new matter" because they include information which was not previously present in the claims. However, Applicants emphasize that the amendments to the claims in the August 3 Amendment are not new matter as defined by U.S. law. In other words, the amendments to the claims did not incorporate any information which was not present in the originally-filed specification and claims.

Further, Applicant notes that in his "Response to Arguments" section, the Examiner asserts that "Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection." However, the Examiner's rejections of Claims 1-3, 5, 10, and 11 over Arquilevich and of Claims 1, and 4-11 over Quintana were previously presented in his Office Action of May 3, 2005, and therefore, the Examiner has presented no "new grounds of rejection." Applicant requests that if the Examiner intends to provide new grounds of rejection that he do so in a new Office Action.

Claim Rejections

As discussed, the Examiner maintains his previous rejections of the claims. Claims 1-3, 5, 10, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Arquilevich,

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and Claims 1, and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Quintana.

In the August 3 Amendment, Applicants argued that "In other words, Arquilevich fails to disclose or suggest changing the position at which a print head begins to eject liquid before crossing a side edge of a print medium or changing the position at which a print head stops ejecting liquid after crossing the opposite side edge of a print medium." In response, the Examiner argues that "this alleged teaching has not been clearly claimed." (Office Action, p. 9).

In the current Amendment, Applicant amends Claims 1, 4, 6-9, and 11 for purposes of clarity. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments are not intended to narrow the scope of the original claims, but are rather for precision of language and to explicitly recite within the claims what was believed to have already been implicitly defined therein.

In view of the clarifying claim amendments, Applicant submits that neither Arquilevich nor Quintana, nor any reasonable combination thereof teaches or suggests detecting an edge of a recording medium, where the edge is substantially perpendicular to a main-scanning direction, as claimed and changing a starting position or a terminating position in the main-scanning direction after the edge has been detected. In other words, as previously submitted, these references fail to teach or suggest changing a position at which a print head begins to eject liquid before crossing a side edge of a print medium or changing the position at which a print head stops ejecting liquid after crossing the opposite side edge of a print medium.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that both Arquilevich and Quintana fail to anticipate any of Claims 1-11, and respectfully request that the rejections thereof be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 1, 2006


Laura Moskowitz
Registration No. 55,470**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

Sir:

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Kristy A HAUPT at the Patent and Trademark Office on February 1, 2006 at 571-273-8300 (Central Fax).

Respectfully submitted,


Laura Moskowitz